

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 40

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of James H. Prewitt of Somerville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of James H. Prewitt; and

WHEREAS, James H. Prewitt was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born January 31, 1939, in Haywood County, James Prewitt was the fourth child born to Reverend Roy and Oretha Prewitt; and

WHEREAS, a 1960 graduate of Fayette County Training School, Mr. Prewitt earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Education at Lane College in Jackson and his Master of Arts degree in Education at the University of Memphis, formerly Memphis State University; and

WHEREAS, James Prewitt retired from Fayette County Schools after forty-two years of service as a teacher, truancy officer, supervisor of attendance and records, assistant principal, and principal; he prized education for everyone, young and old, and had a special way of communicating with each and every student; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Prewitt was also a former insurance agent for H.C. Jett-H.C. Ford and Son Funeral Home; he served on the Board of Directors at Rossville Health Center, Fayette County Citizens For Progress, and Tipton County Head Start, among others; and

WHEREAS, James Prewitt was a member and former vice president of the Fayette County Teachers Association; he was a Master Mason at the Mt. Zion Rossville Advance Free and Accepted Masons Lodge #303 and a Shriner at the Aluzza Temple #169 in Somerville; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Prewitt was an active and devout member of Lagoshen Missionary Baptist Church; previously, he was a member of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, which he

served faithfully for many years as an adult Sunday School teacher, a member of the Board of Deacons, and church secretary; and

WHEREAS, James H. Prewitt was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, James Prewitt enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Henrietta Dunigan-Prewitt, and was the proud father of Dr. Darrion J. (Kathy) Prewitt, Sr., Reverend Beverly J. (Gwendolyn) Prewitt, and Ms. Melani J. Prewitt; he was the doting grandfather of Darielle Y. Prewitt, Darrion J. "Brother" Prewitt, Jr., and De-Ante-L. "JD" Prewitt; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Prewitt is lovingly remembered by his brother, Leroy Prewitt, Sr.; sisters, Fannie Bell Dotson and Mae Atric Grandberry; five sisters-in-law; three brothers-in-law; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, James Prewitt was preceded in death by his sister Arstella and his first wife, Ora Bell Prewitt; and

WHEREAS, James H. Prewitt leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of James H. Prewitt, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of James H. Prewitt.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.